Evening Programs
Manhasset Public Library
30 Onderdonk Ave. at Northern Blvd. 7pm
Open to the public and free of charge
Handicap accessible
http://manhassetlibrary.org
Membership meetings are the
4th Tuesday of the month, unless noted

Happy Holidays
No December
Membership Meeting
Join us for the
Christmas Bird Count
December 21st

Mike Bottini
Long Island’s Otters and Coyotes

Otters have been successfully recolonizing Long Island for the past thirty years and are now firmly established along the island’s north shore. The Eastern Coyote is a newcomer to the island, being a cross of Western Coyote, Gray Wolf and Domestic Dog. This talk provides a history of both species and interesting aspects of their natural histories, and their current distribution on Long Island.

Mike Bottini is a veteran naturalist, outdoor educator, and environmental consultant. After completing graduate studies in wildlife ecology at the University of British Columbia, Mike worked for fourteen years at the Group for the South Fork, a non-profit environmental advocacy organization. He has taught field ecology, environmental science, and natural history courses at St. Lawrence University, Southampton College, and CUNY, has published three books, and is an award-winning columnist. Mike’s wildlife research studies have included elk, spotted and tiger salamanders, spotted turtles, piping plovers, and river otters. He continues to introduce people to the outdoors through his field naturalist classes, nature walks, and paddling trips. Mike also serves on the board of SPOKESPEOPLE of Eastern Long Island, a cycling advocacy organization. He is active in the Plum Island preservation project and a founder of the Long Island Nature Organization.

Great Backyard Bird Count
Feb 14-17
https://gbbc.birdcount.org/
Bird from the comfort of your home and participate in citizen science

January 28, 2020
Film “Super Hummingbirds.”
Hummingbirds are amazing creatures to behold. They are the tiniest of birds, yet possess natural born super powers that enable them to fly backwards, upside-down, and float in mid-air. Their wings beat faster than the eye can see and the speed at which they travel makes people wonder if it was indeed a hummingbird they actually saw. They also are only found in the Americas. These attributes have both intrigued scientists and made it challenging to study the species, but with the latest high-speed cameras and other technologies, “Super Hummingbirds” reveals new scientific breakthroughs about these magical birds.

Hummers may be the smallest birds in the world, but what they lack in size, they make up in speed and the ability to adapt in ways we’re just beginning to learn about as they continue to evolve.

Amanda Pachomski
Beach-nesting Birds of Long Island

Long Island’s beaches and islands provide critical habitat for threatened, endangered, and at-risk shorebirds and seabirds. Amanda will provide a closer look into the unique behaviors and biology of our local beach-nesting bird species. Then, she’ll give an overview of Audubon New York’s research and conservation work including coastal stewardship, productivity monitoring, migratory shorebird surveys, and human disturbance mitigation.

Amanda Pachomski is a Long Island native, wildlife biologist, and sustainable living enthusiast. She has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies, Ecosystems from SUNY Binghamton and a Master of Science in Fish and Wildlife Biology and Management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. As the Long Island Bird Conservation Manager for Audubon New York, she oversees Audubon’s coastal conservation work on Long Island. Amanda is based at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary in Oyster Bay.

Vol. 70 Issue #2
Dec - 2019 Jan-Feb 2020
Helping Birds

The number of birds in North America has declined by around 30% since 1970, and many individual bird species are seriously threatened. To help reverse this trend, North Shore Audubon Society recommends that Northern Nassau County become a more bird-friendly community by

1. favoring native plants over non-native,
2. eliminating invasive plants,
3. minimizing pesticide use with an Integrated Pest Management approach, and also do not use herbicides
4. protecting wetlands,
5. minimizing light pollution,
6. reducing bird-window collisions
7. promoting healthy bird habitat (for example, minimizing turf, leaving leaves under trees to help insects and provide soil nutrients, protecting and promoting nesting habitat for breeding birds).
8. adopting measures to mitigate climate change.
9. keep cats indoors

Here are a few suggestions:
In our next newsletter we will have the details and the order sheet for ordering native plants at our third annual native plant sale so please purchase native plants.

Feel free to contact me with any questions but the newsletter will again include an excellent native plant guide.

To order excellent film for windows to prevent bird collisions go to www.featherfriendly.com. You can also phone them at 888 874 1755. NSAS may be hiring this company to install film on windows to prevent bird collisions at Garvies Point Museum and Preserve. I am planning on ordering one roll of film for my windows. Order by February 29th 2020, using the code NSAS2020 and NSAS will get some funds back. Plus you will be protecting birds from striking your windows. Contact me at nsaudubonsociety@gmail.com if you have any questions.

I have found that spreading corn gluten on my lawn in April totally prevents crab grass. I use Bayles Garden Center in Port Washington to do the spreading, but people could do it themselves.

From the November 15 NY Times page three column, “Here To Help, One Thing You Can Do: Balance Your Energy Demand,” I read about using your appliances off peak. My family always did this anyway to save money but it also means that less power is needed during peak hours if everyone does this, which means less power plants need to be built and operated.

Field Notes Continued from page 7

Queens


10/2 House Wren, Warblers: Nashville, Comm. Yellowthroat, Cape May, Yellow. Alley Pond Park NSAS walk


Suffolk County


8/28 Mute Swan, D/C Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Snowy & Great Egrets, Osprey, Greater & Lesser Yellowlegs, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Laughing Gulls, R/B Gulls, Am. Crow, Swallows (sp), N. Mockingbird, R-W Blackbirds, Timber Point Marina, Great River NSAS walk

8/28 13 species incl: Great Blue Heron, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, Semipalmated Plover, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Laughing Gulls, Herring Gulls, Great BB Gull, Fish Crow, N. Mockingbird, E. Kingbirds.

11/15-22 Golden Crowned Sparrow. Rarity observed by many Brookside Preserve, SayvilleNancy & Lou Tognan, JW-Pines

Sacred Heart Church 215-35 38th Avenue Lower Level (Use side entrance) Bayside, New York 11361

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Wednesday, December 11 QCBC Presents NYS Breeding Bird Atlas III: How you can help” by Brendan Fogarty and Molly Adams

The upcoming 2020-2025 Breeding Bird Atlas welcomes everyone’s participation, but you need to know how. Join Queens County Bird Club to learn how to use ebird to join the Atlas effort. Note new meeting site
North Shore Audubon Society
WINTER 2019-2020 BIRD WALK SCHEDULE

Walks are for beginners and experienced birders alike.
Weather permitting, walks start at 9:30AM unless indicated otherwise ***.
Go to our website at www.northshoreaudubon.org for directions.
We would like to encourage carpooling, where possible.

Winter Walks are leaderless and on Wednesdays. Check the website calendar for weather cancelations

December
12/4 St John's Pond, Cold Spring Harbor behind St Johns’ church
12/11 Garvies Point
12/18 Gerry Park, Cedarmere
12/25 Happy Holidays No walk

January
1/1 Planting Field check NSAS website may cancel
1/8 Twin Lakes Preserve, Mill Pond, Wantagh
1/15 Belmont Lake
1/22 Jones Beach Coast Guard Station
1/29 Baisley Pond Park, Queens meet on 155 St.

February
2/5 Hempstead Lake SP
2/12 Target Rock, Lloyd Neck
2/19 Point Lookout
2/26 Stehli Beach, Bayville

March
3/4 Massapequa Preserve
3/11 Cow Meadow, Caimans Pond

North Nassau Christmas Bird Count Sat Dec 21

It’s that time of year again when groups of experienced birders hit the trails to count as many birds as they can pound out in a 24 hour period. You will see us with binoculars along roads, scouring beaches, parading through back yards (with permission of course) all in the name of the National Audubon Society annual Christmas Bird Count. You can find lots of information about this 100+ year old citizen science project on the Audubon.org website.

If you consider yourself a decent birder, give Jennifer Wilson-Pines a buzz and she’ll incorporate you into a designated area so you can help count and join in the fun. Bring lunch and be willing to car pool and get cold. The count circle starts around Manhasset Bay to the west, up through Lloyd Neck to the east, and down south into Westbury.

Thanks to Garvies Point Museum and Preserve for hosting the compilation and dinner. We are privileged to have North Shore, South Shore and Huntington Audubon Societies take part in this once a year event. Count starts at midnight on 12/21 and ends at dusk when we meet at Garvies. Call if you are interested or if you would simply like to report your backyard feeder birds into the totals. Jennifer Wilson-Pines H 516-767-3454
C 516-941-7434 jwpines@gmail.com

WE NEED FEEDER COUNTERS! Bird from the comfort of your home. Backyard birds are woefully under counted. You can text or email your results to your Count area leader before the compilation.
Richard “Rich” Kelly

North Shore has lost a member, walk leader, Christmas Bird count area leader, outstanding birder, and all around naturalist. Rich was a mentor to many birders, a go to person for an identification - not just of birds but also insects, butterflies, shells and native plants. At his wake his many intersts came together as friends who knew him in one of the persuits came together.

One of my favorite memories of Rich was when the very rare Corn Crake had been spotted near Cedar Beach. North Shore had a walk scheduled at Jones Beach and he was in the parking lot redirecting birders to go see the Corn Crake and thanks to him I was able to add it to my life list. Another walk at Stelhi Beach I arrived late and he was sitting in his car since the very cold weather made treking the marsh too much for him. We just sat and chatted until the walkers came back to the lot. I especially miss him when I spot a bird and want confirmation.

Jennifer Wilson Pines

I first met Rich at a NYSOA conference in 2014. I had read his name on many bird surveys. He joined North Shore Audubon shortly afterwards and led several of our walks. He was a wealth of information, not just on birds and their calls but for plants/flowers, butterflies/moths, trees/bushes, insects/bugs. A butterfly flitting by, he called the name out instantly, he knew all of the Latin names for the plants. He taught all of us a great deal. It was amazing to realize that he was a self-taught master naturalist and educated us with all of his knowledge.

Even after being diagnosed with cancer two years ago, he came on our walks as often as he could for as long as he could through July. On the Wednesday walks we often stop for lunch afterwards, Rich was always right there. He participated for several decades on the Christmas Bird Count. He will be greatly missed by so many people in all of his “societies” that he belonged to. A good natured and sharing person. He has left a large “hole” in NSAS walks and surveys.

Lindy Nielsen

I first got to know Rich on a field trip to Sterling Forest. We were walking through a field, and he indicated a large flat piece of sheet metal lying in the field, and suggested I lift it up. Not knowing him and his sense of humor and being dumb, I did, only to find two large northern watersnakes hissing up at me. Of course, Rich knew they were there. He always knew where things were. I gave Rich a look, said “oh, cool” and didn’t scream or drop the metal piece. I guess he figured I was okay, because we spent a lot of time birding together after that. Many times, he had me crying with laughter telling stories about his many adventures in the field while shelling, birding, butterflying or on his botany trips. No names will be shared to protect the guilty.

I will miss so much hearing Rich say “what’s that!” when a bird, bug, butterfly, snake, flew, flittered or slithered by. So many times, he knew exactly what it was, or had a very good guess. If he didn’t, he never hesitated to admit it, which to me is the sign of someone truly educated and confident in their knowledge. His undying curiosity about the natural world, and his generosity in sharing that knowledge with the rest of us, was inspiring.

It was always great fun to be birding with Rich and Andy Greller. While most of us were giving directions to view a bird by saying “it’s in the light green leaves, next to the red leaves above the squirrel” or “look at the sticky tree at 2:00 o’clock” they would be identifying the tree in Latin. It came to naturally to them.

Rich and I were birding one time at the West End of Jones Beach, and since the birding was slow, we started (of course) to look for bugs. A young man came up to Rich, wide-eyed, and said “are you THE Rich Kelly from the Bug Guide?” When Rich said “yes” the young man replied “it’s such an honor to meet you, can I shake your hand? I follow you on the Bug Guide…” I can’t remember the whole conversation now, but the younger man was effusive in his praise and admiration of Rich. It was a genuine thrill on his part to meet Rich. Rich was a little taken aback and embarrassed, but I think he was tickled pink to be acknowledged like that. After that, I frequently referred to Rich as the “the Man, the Myth, the Legend” just to keep his head from swelling. It is so immeasurably sad to me now that all we have of Rich is his legend. He was an incredible mentor, a repository of knowledge about the natural world, a story teller par excellence, and a great friend. He will be missed.

Pat Aitkin

Rich Kelly was my friend and I was one of so many. Rich was a multi-talented person but I knew him mainly as a person who could identify every bird by sight and sound. Many times I would meet him before the 9:30 AM scheduled bird walks because we both liked to find birds early in the day. I couldn’t identify birds nearly as well as Rich but he was glad to help. Rich was one of those patient expert birders who went with a group not caring about how experienced they were. I owe my improved bird identification skills to him as do many of us.

When I started doing shorebird surveys every 10 days during migration I would send Rich photos of shorebirds I couldn’t identify and he would get back to me within a day with an answer. I have other people to whom I could send photos but he is still the one person who I will miss terribly for so many reasons.

Peggy Maslow
Garvies Point Museum & Preserve
50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove 571-8010
Programs & crafts included with museum admission
$4/adults, $2/children 5-12 years, unless otherwise noted.
Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm
Closed Sunday & Mondays
www.garviespointmuseum.com

Saturday, December 14
NATURAL ORNAMENT WORKSHOP ● 11am – 3pm, ongoing
Create beautiful ornaments from woods and water!

Saturday, December 21
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT ● 10am – 4pm, ongoing
No charge, regular museum admission applies if you wish to visit.
Be a citizen scientist for a day and put your bird-watching skills to work!
Participate by counting numbers and species of birds around the preserve and birdfeeders.
All skill levels welcome. Reference guide of common birds and binoculars are available.

Thursday, December 26 - Saturday, December 28
COCOA & CRAFTS ● 10am – 4pm, ongoing
Join us each day for a fun craft including pinecone critters, bird-feeders & more.
Plus enjoy a different film each day and complimentary hot cocoa!
FILMS ● 11am, 1pm, 3pm each day
First Snow in the Woods (30 mins.)
All About Climate & Seasons (23 mins.)
All About Animal Life Cycles (23 mins.)

Saturday, January 18 ● 2 – 3pm
WINTER BIRD-WALK
Many species of birds live on our preserve year-round, for some birds, this is their wintering grounds! Join a Garvies naturalist on a casual walk to observe our winter residents.
Film: Owl Power (60 mins) ● 11am, 1pm, 3pm

Saturday, February 8
VALENTINE PAPER-MAKING ● 10am – 4pm, ongoing
Make a unique & beautiful valentine from recycled paper!

FRIENDS OF GARVIES POINT MUSEUM & PRESERVE Join online
Free admission to Garvies Point Museum & Preserve
Discount in the gift shop, Notices of special events and programs, Invitations to MEMBERS ONLY events and programs.http://www.garviespointmuseum.com/fr...
**FIELD NOTES**

**Abbreviations for common locations:** CC= Captin’s Cove, CIB=Centre Island Beach, CITP=Centre Island Town Park, DP=Dosoris Pond, FFS Flora & Fauna Survey FPM=Fox Point Marsh, GPP=Garvies Point Preserve, HC=Hoffman Center, HH=Hempstead Harbor, LB= Lattingtown Beach, MNC=Mill Neck Creek, MP=Margon’s Park Beach, MP= Muttontown Preserve, WP=Massapequa Park Preserve, PB=Przyble Beach, PFA=Planting Fields Arboretum, PRCC=Piping Rock Country Club, RB=Ransom Beach, SB=Stehli Beach, SJM=St Josphats Monestary, SSP=Sands Point Preserve, SSP=Shu Swamp Preserve, WP=Welwyn Preserve, FOS= first of season, + = many, F =female, M=male, A=adult, imm.=immature, J=juvenile

**Date** | **Birds** | **Location** | **Observer**
--- | --- | --- | ---
8/25 | Hummingbird/Imm. | Garden | Lindy Nielsen
9/1 | B/W Warbler, Raven (flying over). | Garden | Lindy Nielsen
10/4 | Great Egret | Oyster Bay Harbor | Lindy Nielsen
10/29 | Cooper’s Hawk(Female) | Garden | Jim Madden
11/13 | Yellow-Rumped Warbler | Garden | Jim Madden
11/15 | Imm. Cooper’s Hawk | Garden | Jim Madden
11/20 | 8 sp incl: Black Duck, Bufflehead, R/B Merganser, Great Blue Heron, Carolina Wren. Creek Beach | NSAS walk

**Bayville**


**Glen Cove**

10/12 | 28 species incl: Cormorant, Osprey, Cooper’s Hawk, Great BB Gull, Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker, Red-Bellied & Downy Woodpeckers, N. Flicker, E. Phoebe, Red-Eyed Vireo, Am. Crow, W/B Nuthatch, Carolina Wren (H), Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, N. Parula & B/T Blue Warblers, Scarlet Tanager, Song Sparrow, White-Throated Sparrow FOS. | Garvies Point Preserve | NSAS walk

**Locust Valley**

9/18 | 19 species incl: R/T Hummingbird, Osprey, Cooper's Hawk, Am. Crow, B/C Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Grey Catbird, Am. Goldfinch. | Humes Estate | NSAS walk
10/15 | Great Egret | Pond/West Shore Road | Lindy Nielsen
11/12 | A pair of Am. Bald Eagles, 1 immature Am. Bald Eagle | Beaver Lake | Barbara Conolly

**Email sightings to Lindy Nielsen twosteplindy@optonline.net**
Date | Birds | Location | Observer
--- | --- | --- | ---
11/20 | Kingfisher | Sheep Lane | Jim Madden

Oyster Bay

Port Washington/ Sands Point

Roslyn
10/11 | 8 Buffalohead FOS | Off Baxter Beach | Jennifer Wilson-Pines

SIGHTINGS OUTSIDE OF NSAS TERRITORY

Hempstead

Port Washington/ Sands Point

Oceanside
10/19 | 34 species incl: Canada Geese, Brant, Swans, Wood Duck, Cormorants, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Peregrine Falcon, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, G/B Gull, Forster’s Tern, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, E. Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Marsh Wren (H), R/C Kinglet, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, Sparrows…Chipping, Song, Swamp, RWBlackbird. | Marine Nature Center | NSAS walk

Syosset
10/14 | Turkey Vultures Flying over | Lindy Nielsen

Point Lookout
9/19 | Sanderlings, Black Skimmers, Caspian Tern, Herring Gull, Marbled Godwit, Least Sandpipers, YC Night Heron, Greater Yellow legs N. Mockingbird. | Nickerson Beach & Lido Marine Preserve | Jennifer Wilson-Pines

Valley Stream

Wantagh
9/19 | Black Scoter, Am. Oystercatchers. Marbled Godwit, Red Knot | JB Coast Guard Station | Jennifer Wilson-Pines
11/9 | Western Kingbird | JB Police Station, West End | Jennifer Wilson-Pines
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Mission Statement - To promote, protect and preserve the environment and the birds that inhabit it through education, advocacy and leadership.

www.northshoreaudubon.org

Join the North Shore Audubon Society

☐ Chapter Membership Application / Renewal
☐ Gift Membership

☐ $20 One year membership Renewal?
☐ $35 Two year membership Renewal?

Membership in NSAS includes 4 issues per year of this newsletter, website, Facebook page and group, and free scheduled field trips, programs and lectures.

$______ Additional contribution Interested in Volunteering?☐

NAME_______________________________________________

ADDRESS___________________________________________

CITY____________________STATE______ZIP________

EMAIL______________________________________________

Please make checks payable to North Shore Audubon Society PO Box 763, Port Washington, NY 11050

National Audubon renewals please use magazine insert forms.

Dec 2019 - Jan-Feb 2020

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North Shore Audubon Society

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